

CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

OF INTEREST TO ALL READERS

People of southeastern Nebraska have solved the problem of the high cost of building. Sawmills have sprung up in all parts of Nemaha county and thousands of cottonwood trees are being cut down and sawed up into perfectly good material. Farmers are buying the lumber sawed from the native logs by home mills at \$50 a thousand and are using the material to build barns, sheds and cribs.

Several big Omaha retail stores have followed the plan of the Wamaker stores of New York in reducing prices on all stocks in an effort to lower living costs. Prices have been slashed by the Omaha concerns from 20 to 30 per cent. Heads of firms differ, however, to some degree, for the action, some saying it was brought about by a break in the market and not due to philanthropic motives.

The state board of equalization announced a flat increase of 8 per cent in the valuation of railroad property in Nebraska for assessment purposes. This makes a valuation of railroad property in Nebraska, exclusive of the Pullman company, total \$906,746,940, an increase over last year's valuation of \$22,655,485.

Grant Hackenberg, Cass county farmer, bagged nine coyotes on his farm, and delivered the skins to the county clerk at Weeping Water, and received a bounty of \$3 each. So far this season one hundred and forty-one coyote skins have been registered with the county clerk.

June 8 is the date set for the execution of Alton B. Cole and Vincent Allen Grammer at the state prison, Lincoln. Appeal for a new trial for Cole will be argued before the supreme court June 7. The men were condemned for the murder of Mrs. Vogt, in Howard county.

Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, after viewing the devastation at Omaha wrought by the overflow of the Missouri river, declared he would take the matter up with the War department with a view of having a survey made and suitable dikes built to prevent a recurrence of the disaster.

It is reported that a big terminal elevator will be erected in Omaha or Lincoln in the near future by the stockholders of the 150 Farmers' union elevators in Nebraska, who have incorporated under the name of the National Co-operative association.

Two hundred and fifty Dodge county boys and girls are organized into poultry, pig, calf, cooking, sewing or gardening clubs and competing for cash prizes given by the Scribner and Hooper Fair associations and different farm organizations.

Gene Huse, publisher of the Norfolk Daily News, has been decorated with the King Albert medal for services rendered Belgium during the war. He was in charge of the North Nebraska campaign for funds to aid Belgian babies.

The old chicken factory building at O'Neill, built about thirty years ago, when chicken was being boomed as a substitute for coffee, is being torn down. The factory was said to be the largest manufacturing plant of its kind in the world.

J. H. Presson, Omaha, was elected commander of the Nebraska G. A. R. at the forty-fourth annual encampment at Fremont. Mrs. Martha A. Carnony, Omaha, was elected president of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

Twenty-seven passengers were injured and two trainmen hurt when a passenger train plowed its way through two rear cars of a freight train on a switch at Trenton.

The Kearney Amusement park, which has become one of the attractions of tourists traveling over the Lincoln highway, opened May 22.

Corn planting in the South Platte territory of the state has moved along rapidly the past ten days and the work is virtually finished.

One of the largest milk distributing companies of Lincoln announced a reduction in price from 15 to 14 cents a quart.

Club work in Dodge county for boys and girls has been organized in 18 rural schools.

Plans are being completed for a big celebration in Hebron on July Fourth.

Recent investigations and report from the Miller Seed Co., Kansas City, prove that Yemango, this state, is the largest millet shipping point in the world. Millet is one of western Nebraska's big crops.

The Salvation Army is establishing its home service program for 1920 in Nebraska. In 11 counties Salvation Army advisory boards have already been organized and are actively co-operating with the army in home service work.

Two hundred veterans of the G. A. R., representing the 2,000 who still survive in Nebraska, attended the big encampment at Fremont.

Sidney is preparing for a bond issue election next month to vote nearly half a million dollars for the purpose of extending the water, sewer, lighting and power systems.

George Martin of Kearney was named president, and Frank Pickrell, principal of the Lincoln High school, Lincoln, secretary and treasurer of the Nebraska Schoolmasters' club at its meeting in Fremont.

Beatrice High school won high honors in the eighteenth annual track and field meet of the Nebraska high schools at the State University, Lincoln, May 15. The Beatrice youths captured first place in the group three competition, Lincoln finished second and Omaha third. The group two championship went to Wilbur, while Dewitt was victor in group one. Over 300 youths, representing more than thirty schools, were on the track, the greatest in the history of Nebraska track sports history.

The instances of the editor of a weekly newspaper getting out his publication regularly and operating a 1,000-acre farm are rare, but H. W. Mitchell of Clearwater, publisher of The Record of that place, has accomplished the feat for the past 12 years. During all that time he has produced his weekly paper without missing an issue and at the same time has looked after his farm.

Miss Anna Yokel, recently a candidate for the democratic nomination for secretary of state, will sever her connection with the board of control, where she has been employed as bookkeeper for some time. Miss Yokel avers she was dismissed for political reasons, while board members lay it to incapacity.

The Masonic lodge of Table Rock has purchased the upper story of the Hulda block, west of the public square, and will remodel it to make them a permanent home. Their expectations are to make it one of the most attractive lodge rooms in the state outside of the larger cities.

Another Hooker county ranchman has been arrested for complicity in the cattle rustling ring, which has operated in the district for the past two years, and investigation of which by the authorities led to the sentencing of Jesse Ingram, rancher, to the penitentiary.

A unanimous verdict of the three judges, all from other states, was awarded to Thomas Harrison, representing the Kearney state normal school in the state extemporaneous speaking contest held at the school auditorium at Kearney.

Lincoln High school won the Amherst cup when its debating team defeated Omaha on the state question, "Resolved, That Congress Should Prohibit Strikes on Railroads Doing Interstate Business." The contest was held at Omaha.

The population of Lincoln, according to the federal census, is 54,931, an increase of 10,961, or 24.9 per cent since 1910. This is for the city alone, and does not include the suburbs, which it is estimated contain a total of 13,000 persons.

Nebraskans who attend the state fair this fall may have to pay an admission fee of 75 cents instead of 50 cents as previously. The board of managers has the matter under consideration and some action will probably be taken shortly.

Farmers of Gage and surrounding counties report that the winter wheat crop is most promising, and that with anything like favorable weather there should be an average yield of 18 or 20 bushels to the acre.

Government statistics show that the per capita bank deposits in Nebraska amounted to \$362 at the close of last year. This represented that amount for every man, woman and child in the state.

Charles Hyatt and C. M. Lewis have organized the Holdrege Amusement company and have purchased a 20-acre grove west of Holdrege for an amusement park.

Joseph K. Rousek, 23 years old, elevator boy at the Hotel Pathfinder, Fremont, was instantly killed when he was caught in the shaft and his body cut in two.

Overflow of the Platte river inundated the low land around North Bend, Rogers and Schuyler, and caused some damage to bridges and crops.

President Platt of the Crab Orchard bank, which was robbed the other night, reports that the loss of the institution would not be more than \$200.

A revival of political debating after the fashion of the Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 is planned by women voters of Dodge county.

The Nebraska prohibition convention held in Lincoln last Tuesday went on record against boys 18 years old smoking.

Damage at Omaha and vicinity caused by the rise of the Missouri river is estimated at \$100,000.

City commissioners of Kearney are advertising for bids on about 30 blocks of paving.

Robbers entered the State bank of Colon, blew the safe, rifled the safe deposit vault and escaped with about \$6,000. This is the third bank robbery in Saunders county within six months.

The new \$25,000 hospital, built at Lynch, which will be operated by the Benedictine sisters of the Catholic church, will be ready for occupancy in about two weeks.

James C. Dahlman, former mayor of Omaha, has been appointed temporary United States Marshal for Nebraska in place of T. J. Flynn, who died recently.

A campaign is on at North Platte to raise funds to fit up a permanent summer camp for Boy Scouts and Camp Fire girls of the city.

Plymouth now has electric lights for the first time in its history. The juice is furnished by the Beatrice plant. Several families along the line are using the service.

In an effort to relieve the teacher shortage in Nebraska, the State University at Lincoln will offer special inducements in its summer school terms, June 5 to July 30, for former teachers who plan to re-enter the field.

PRICE CUTTING GENERAL

Tight Money in Rail Congestion Advance for Wave Which is Sweeping Entire Nation.

Chicago, Ill.—A wave of price-cutting in retail clothing costs reaching from the Mississippi valley to the Pacific coast is under way, according to reports reaching here. Dispatches from 24 cities told of promised reductions in certain necessities ranging from 15 per cent to minus profit.

Financial authorities here said the indications were that the price decline would be limited to ready-to-wear clothing, principally women's garments and silks. Shoes were in the list affected.

Tight money and inadequate transportation facilities were cited among the prime reasons for the movement. Delays in delivery of goods in which much money had been tied up, together with inability of farmers to get grain and live stock to market were said in many instances to have worked a hardship on merchants.

An officer of one of the leading department stores of Chicago declared that the price reduction now being reported meant also that merchants were trying to satisfy what he called "a hysterical demand from the public for lower prices." These current reductions, he said, might be only temporary.

A financial authority here said that reports of price-cutting were dependable, they indicated, a tendency toward a reduction in inventories. Though this might be temporary, he said, it was undoubtedly good, in that it suggested that merchants were going ahead more cautiously. Sales are being held under various names.

Slayer Kills Self.

Greenville, Ill.—Harley O. Bensley, 25 years old, alleged murderer, committed suicide over his wife's grave in Bethlehem cemetery three miles east of here. Bensley shot himself in the right temple.

Bensley had been hunted by about 30 possemen almost continuously for five days. A woods near here had been combed twice, but he was not found.

He was charged with having murdered his wife and babies in a pasture near Webster City, Ia., May 8, after failing to effect a reconciliation with Mrs. Bensley, from whom he had been separated.

Britain to Control Oil.

Washington, D. C.—Great Britain's policy with reference to world petroleum supplies is reported to be to exclude aliens from the control of petroleum supplies within the empire and to endeavor to obtain some measure of control over oil properties in foreign countries, the senate was informed in a state department report transmitted by President Wilson. The report was furnished in response to a resolution asking what disabilities were being imposed upon American exploitation of world oil resources by other countries.

City Loses Model Young Man.

David City, Neb.—J. S. Vaughn, newlywed, church singer, baker employed by G. W. Gates & Son, has departed, and citizens here who befriended him, total their losses at \$1,500. Vaughn in three months bought an automobile and mortgaged it, won a rich widow owning her own home for his wife, lifted his voice in the village choir and established credit in all the town stores. Recently Vaughn bought two diamond rings on credit, obtained \$700 from his bride, bought a supply of clothing at the stores, sold his mortgaged car and departed. He left his bride here.

Declares Sugar Cornered.

Washington, D. C.—Retail sugar prices can be reduced 50 per cent, J. H. McLaurin announced, following a conference which he and a delegation of the Southern Wholesale Grocers' association held with Attorney General Palmer.

"The trouble with the sugar situation," said McLaurin, "is hoarding and interference by brokers. They have cornered the supply. The attorney general must stop speculation in sugar."

Denver City of 255,289.

Washington, D. C.—Denver, Colorado's largest city, which ranked as the 27th municipality of the country in 1910, has outgrown Louisville and St. Paul, which ranked 24th and 26th, respectively, 10 years ago. The census bureau announced Denver's population as 255,289, an increase of 42,988, or 20.1 per cent over 1910.

Levee Breaks at Omaha.

Omaha, Neb.—A break in the levee of the Missouri river bank, one mile north of here, sent a rush of water over an area of six miles of the thickly populated East Omaha district, driving hundreds of families from their homes and causing an enormous amount of damage to gardens and residence property.

France's War Losses Appalling.

Paris.—What is perhaps the first concise and comprehensive statement of France's war losses has just been made by Captain Andre Tardieu, former French high commissioner in the United States. In describing what he calls the "balance sheet" of France, Captain Tardieu states that during the five years of the war 8,000,000 men were mobilized, of whom 1,400,000 were killed, 800,000 maimed and 300,000 wounded. France thus lost 57 per cent of her men under 32 years of age.

Lesson of the Day



"From these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion."

"We here highly resolve that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

NATION HONORS ALL HER HEROES

Memories of Veterans of Three Wars Are Enshrined in Country's Heart.

Memorial day is the day of the dead, the veterans of three wars; but, though newly consecrated by the fresh and poignant sacrifices of those who passed away in the great war of liberation "over there," there cannot be now, any more than in the past, any associations but those of true joy and honorable pride, far removed from the despair of causes lost, or from griefs over those whose death is without meaning and end without result. For it is the holy joy of those who know that the sacrifices were not in vain that distinguished this day of days this year, coupled with the realization that both those who went and those who remained joined freely in the obligation on the altar of the country with an unflinching belief in the nobility of the obligation and the deep significance of what it meant for the common good.

While the ceremonies on this slide follow the usual lines, heightened by the opportunity to pay fresh homage where homage is due, the tribute that is paid "over there," beginning with the ceremony at Suresnes, near which has been developed the American cemetery nearest to Paris, at which President Wilson officiated last year. In the very presence of the dead themselves, takes on an especially moving character. For in nothing did the American expeditionary force and all its helpful accessory agencies, such as the Red Cross, so distinguish themselves as in their concern that the last resting place of those who fell abroad should be neither unknown, unmarked nor unhonored. As a result of this determined and consecrated effort of all services, the new graves of the hero dead, he they located where they fell, or removed to the permanent centers of burial that have been selected at appropriate places as the official American cemeteries, will receive every attention that is their just due from their brothers in arms "over there" and a grateful country. The graves, all separately and singly marked with the cross, or the star, save in name and title, no distinction of rank being allowed in the identifying symbol, will be decorated, one and all. And while much that has been devised as to the handling of these special cemeteries has followed the plan of the British, who have been at work at the problem much longer, yet a peculiarly American touch is given to this annual commemoration of Memorial day, so familiar to us all, is new to our allies, and to the French, though they have gladly co-operated with the American forces in order to make the day a truly notable one and one of general and significant commemoration.

So far as the general cemeteries go we have followed the British in the plan for the separate graves, but they have gone a little further in that each large burying place will be dominated by a tall cross and plain altar stone, described by Kipling as "the Cross of Sacrifice and the Stone of Remembrance," the stone bearing the inscription, also suggested by Kipling, "Their name liveth forevermore." Save for this, the great concentration cemeteries of the American forces, such as Romagne-sur-Montfaucon, the largest, containing 30,000 graves of those who fell in the Meuse-Argonne battles, will represent little more than the simplicity of Quaker burying grounds, since the permanent memorial monuments that may be erected are yet to be determined. But there is no question of the monumental effect of the commemoration, nor will those who lie in the smaller cemeteries, or in the little French churchyards be over-

THE NATION'S DEAD, 1861-1865.

Four hundred thousand men,
The brave—the good—the true,
In tangled wood, in mountain glen,
On battle plain, in prison pen,
Lie dead for me and you!
Four hundred thousand of the brave
Have made our ransomed soil their grave.

For me and you!
Good friend, for me and you!
In many a fevered swamp,
By many a black bayou,
In many a cold and frozen camp
The weary sentinel ceased his tramp
And died for me and you!
From western plain to ocean tide
Are stretched the graves of those who died.

For me and you!
Good friend, for me and you!
On many a bloody plain
Their ready swords they drew,
And poured their lifeblood like the rain,
A home—a heritage to gain,
To gain for me and you!
Our brothers mustered by our side;
They marched and fought and bravely died.

For me and you!
Good friend, for me and you!
Up many a fortress wall
They charged—those boys in blue—
Mid swirling smoke and volleyed ball
The bravest were the first to fall!
To fall for me and you!
These noble men—the nation's pride—
Four hundred thousand men have died.

For me and you!
Good friend, for me and you!
In treason's prison-hold
Their martyr spirits grew,
To stature like the saints of old;
While, amid agonies untold,
They starved for me and you!
The good, the patient and the tried,
Four hundred thousand men have died.

For me and you!
Good friend, for me and you!
A debt we never can pay
To them is justly due;
And to the nation's latest day
Our children's children still shall say,
"They died for me and you!"
Four hundred thousand of the brave
Made this our ransomed soil their grave.

For me and you!
Good friend, for me and you!
plan for the separate graves, but they have gone a little further in that each large burying place will be dominated by a tall cross and plain altar stone, described by Kipling as "the Cross of Sacrifice and the Stone of Remembrance," the stone bearing the inscription, also suggested by Kipling, "Their name liveth forevermore." Save for this, the great concentration cemeteries of the American forces, such as Romagne-sur-Montfaucon, the largest, containing 30,000 graves of those who fell in the Meuse-Argonne battles, will represent little more than the simplicity of Quaker burying grounds, since the permanent memorial monuments that may be erected are yet to be determined. But there is no question of the monumental effect of the commemoration, nor will those who lie in the smaller cemeteries, or in the little French churchyards be over-

looked today or in the years to come. This is all as it should be. And quite as those at home would wish it. And, as has happened in the case of the older celebrations, even though the day brings its fresh and deeper sorrows, at the same time there must be felt everywhere the comforting sense that the country and those who have passed away were equal to their task in the world crisis. It is but meet and proper, therefore, that all should insist that wherever they may lie each and all who paid the final debt shall be marked from among their fellows, dead and living, by such solemn and ceremonial observances as we have set up here for generations and are now repeating abroad. Respect and recognition for what they did and proper honors for the hero dead lend dignity to the living, glorify all sense of duty and discipline and lift an life into the nobler channels of a humanity that is not, as is writ of the heasts of the fields, "without aim or hope," but serves understandingly and not in vain.

PASSING OF THE GRAND ARMY

Significant That in Omaha Three Posts of Veterans Have Had to Be Consolidated.

One of the items of local news carries with it a tinge of sadness, observes the Omaha Bee. It recounts the fact that the three Omaha posts of the Grand Army of the Republic are to be consolidated because they no longer have numerical strength for more than one. This is simple notice that the great organization of men who wore the blue and marched with Grant and Sherman, is passing on more rapidly than we realize. They were boys in '65, when the conflict closed, but that was more than half a century ago, and the youngest head that sheltered under a soldier's cap then is now snow-white from age. It was inevitable that this association of men who shared together the hardships and privations, the dangers and the triumphs of war, should pass in its time, for its members are immortal only in the deeds they wrought and the glory they brought to America. Soon "the muffled drum's sad roll" will have beaten the last tattoo for the Grand Army; the last veteran will have been laid away to await the bugle sounding reveille in eternity, the last bronze button will be placed alongside the tattered old battle flags and the stained uniform, and the Grand Army of the Republic will live only in the memory of a people who will more and more enjoy the fruitage of its history. For

On fame's eternal camping ground
Their silent tents are spread,
While glory guards with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead.

Day of Solemn Ceremony.

This Memorial day is a time when the people of this country unite in paying tribute to the thousands who made the supreme sacrifice in the greatest of all fratricidal wars. It is a solemn occasion, and nothing should be permitted to mar its sanctity. Certain it is that the day should not be given over to sport.

THINK of the young men—the boys in blue and in gray—who went down in the cruel slaughter of Cold Harbor and in the gloom of the Wilderness, and who wore themselves out in hospital and in prison! You can take up no college history, or town history or family history, without coming across evidences of the unspeakable sadness of this young life. The boys who there surrendered it, in the full-flood of patriotism, would otherwise have seen the telephone and the automobile and the flying machine, and the countless wonders of our great era, and would have been able to witness the solemn drama of the nations as it has been enacting. All this is life. Some of them would have fallen away from natural causes, to be sure, but many would now be looking complacently out toward the setting sun. Children and grandchildren—who have now never crossed the threshold of existence—would have been gathering about them in affectionate reverence. What infinite pathos in the toll of war!